## LUTON AND THE LEAGUE.

## TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR AGAIN BEATEN.

M'EWEN DISABLED.

On Saturday the Tottenham 'Spurs came to Luton to meet the Town Club team for a second time this season in the United League tournament, and they retired with one more defeat scored up against them. It should be conceded that the 'Spurs were not at full strength, Burrows, Montgomery, Almond and Milliken all being absent for various reasons. On the Luton side Gallacher was away, his mother's death having led to his departure for Scotland, The weather was brilliantly fine and there was a very good attendance, a good number of supporters of the 'Spurs being present.

The sides took up their positions thus :-

Luton: Goal, Williams; backs, McCartney and McEwen; half-backs, Davies, Stewart and Docherty; forwards, Perrins and Coupar (right), Galbraith (centre), McInnes and Ekins (left).

Tottenham Hotspur: Goal, Ambler; backs, Allen and Mair; half-backs, Devlin, Briggs and Crump; forwards, McElheney and Newbigging (right), Wilson (centre), Clement and Payne (left). Referee: Mr. Tillotson; Luton linesman, Mr. E. Birch. Losing the toss rendered it necessary for the locals to face sun and wind. A mistake by Coupar led to the Spurs making their way into the home quarters, where they shot wide, Crump being unlucky with a very good attempt. Luton advanced well and Ekins neglected a capital opening. McEwen became the victim of the ungentle attentions of the 'Spurs, following which Stewart sent over the bar. Galbraith almost succeeded in getting through; but Ambler was a trifle too smart for him, the custodian rushing out and clearing well. The corner which accrued in consequence was not productive, one of the visting defenders heading away neatly. Pretty passing by the home forwards was noted and in the midst of a stiff tussle Galbraith nearly managed to break through after a shot by Davies. Hands against Tottenham near goal was disastrous, for Ekins put Luton ahead immediately afterwards. At the home end McElheney sent high over the bar, while Mair placed admirably from a free-kick for a foul by Galbraith, one of the front rankers heading just wide of the mark. Hands against the strangers brought about the concession of a corner by Allen, who was playing an especially plucky game. Ekins centred smartly when Luton attacked, and later on Allen gave away another corner to Ekins. Galbraith got off capitally from a pass by McInnes and his final shot was so good that Ambler was tested very severely and conceded a corner. Stewart barely missed with an excellent overhead kick, while from a further flag-kick Coupar headed in grandly. Following more pressure by the home combination McElheney once more put himself in evidence and it was from his centre that Wilson miscalculated the height of the bar. It had been apparent for some time that McEwen was injured, and hereabouts he retired. Later on in the first half he returned for a few minutes but was compelled to again leave, and during the whole of the second portion he did not assist his side. It seemed that he had strained a muscle in the groin, and after the game he was unable to walk without assistance. The absence of "Mac" left the locals with ten men only, so that a re-arrangement of the forces became necessary. Accordingly Davies went to left back and Perrins to right-half, the front string consisting of four forwards. To resume, let it be said that McEwen's departure did not serve to take the sting out of the home attack. The 'Spurs' goal experienced a couple of very narrow escapes. Freekicks were taken without result and later on Ekins gave a capital exhibition in the course of which he actually charged an opponent down and finished up by centreing neatly, this forcing a corner. Efforts to score were credited to McInnes, Stewart and Coupar in succession, all these shots being excellently dealt with. Thereafter Newbigging equalised for Tottenham, Williams clearing once and failing to cope with the ball when it was returned. Stimulated by this success the visitors put on the pressure and Williams soon had to handle again. The keeper tipped the leather over the bar in dealing with a smart try by Newbigging, and from the resultant corner the ball was sent through; but some informality had been noticed by the referee, and the kick had to be taken over again. A corner to Luton saw Galbraith very nearly succeed in heading through. Davies was stopped for fouling close to goal, and Galbraith was somewhat hurt by Briggs. Subsequently a very fine attempt by McCartney gave Ambler some trouble. Towards the

wildly over the bar. When the customary pause occurred the situation was:

end of the first half a mis-kick by Williams gave Payne

an opportunity; but the left-winger merely kicked

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Hands against Devlin was given very soon after the resumption, and good play by McInnes was witnessed. A free-kick against the 'Spurs was as well disposed of as it was well taken, while "Gally" threw away a good chance on receiving a neat pass from McInnes. Another opening made by Coupar was just as badly mulled. Ekins made amends in the eyes of the spectactors by sending in a beauty which struck the bar and came into play, Coupar sending wide by inches immediately afterwards. McCartney was nastily fouled, and at the home end Briggs sent over from a corner-kick. The very best sample of play of the afternoon came next. Ekins got off at top speed and, eluding all his opponents, scored a magnificent goal from the line, the ball travelling at a rare pace. The notch was one of the best of the season, and the player thoroughly deserved the hearty cheering which greeted the achievement. McInnes almost succeeded in following up his partner's success. Newbigging thereafter got through and bad the goal at his mercy when he was luckily stopped. Williams effected a magnificent save, while Ambler distinguished himself by saving neatly from Coupar. A good effort by Briggs called for smartness on the part of the home keeper, and Williams just afterwards distinguished himself by clearing in spite of the efforts of a couple of adversaries to hustle him into the net. Stewart and Ekins sent wide. Galbraith sent in neatly from outside right and when Ambler had played the ball McInnes managed to send it into the net. To the general surprise Mr. Tillotson disallowed the pointwhy, nobody could determine. In a minute or two one of the 'Spurs appeared to head into his own goal; the ball certainly went under the bar, but it seemed that the leather was already through from a free-kick when it was played. More hard luck came to the leaders, while later on bad misses were seen from Ekins and McElheney. McCartney cleared finely and when Coupar had forced a corner Galbraith headed wide from a splendid centre by Docherty. Towards the close the Lutonians struggled hard to improve their position and Coupar almost succeeded in beating Ambler. Considering that they had but 10 men against a full side the home lot did well to win in the end with the following totals:-

LUTON, 2; HOTSPUR, 1.